

THE HAMMER AND THE PENDULUM

New Theories on Earth Catastrophes

*Richard Noone,
author of 5/5/2000,
explains why we
should adopt a
more catastrophic
view of history.*

Part 1 of 2

by Richard W. Noone © 1998

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- <http://rnoone.com>
 - www.futurefate.com

The shift in the Earth's crust was as sudden as it was devastating. It moved with such deadly force, with such overwhelming ferocity, that it caught everything in its path unaware and unsuspecting. It came like a great white shark from the ocean depths, its jaws open wide, ready to close on its victim. Nothing signified its approach, nothing warned of its danger.

Like a thief in the night, the deadly force moved, secretly and silently, propelled by centrifugal forces, its primeval power multiplying in strength, multiplying in intensity, and with ever-increasing velocity it carried its deadly power encased in the frigid ice of the poles. And with a suddenness borne of seeming desperation, it tore the planet's rigid crust asunder. There was a moment of seeming indecision, and then the Earth virtually ignited in angry response as volcanoes erupted and deadly earthquakes shook the globe.

The cataclysm came literally out of the blue, shattering the Earth's crust and driving the ocean into a maelstrom of death as the waters, riling in rage, burst across the land in 100-foot waves that afforded no warning to the inhabitants, no mercy for the living. A great civilisation was reduced to rubble.

With the passage of time, only a legend of the dream of the Golden Age that had been remained in the minds of those who survived. Those who could had sought protection in the hills; others, less fortunate but no less determined, fought it out with Nature with a courage born of desperation. Few prevailed, but those who did wandered the ruins like wild children. They had been stripped of their basic necessities and their dreams of tomorrow that their civilisation had provided. Bewildered, their trust in God, in Nature and even in their fellow man shattered, yet driven by the instinct to survive, they began the task of forging a living from what remained, knowing nothing of what tomorrow would bring. It would be many years, and countless aftershocks, before the event was over, so, without choice, they lived minute by minute with an anxiety born of panic, wondering, always wondering, if or when the Earth would shift again.

Dramatic? Perhaps, but no less true. Newly published evidence that is as exciting as any Hollywood disaster script or a synopsis of an historical geological event that transpired in remote antiquity, demonstrates that there was a geological Armageddon of such magnitude as to be almost beyond comprehension. Catastrophic Earth changes of this magnitude have been a part of Earth's history since time began, and with no less certainty they will be a part of its future.

So, as unpleasant as it may seem, it behoves us to take an investigative look at the theories that have attempted to explain these great periods of global death and extinction. Strangely, few theories have come from the orthodox community, but those that have are better characterised as 'let me guess' theories that seem to answer nothing. The more effectual efforts have come from a few seriously dedicated authors who have picked up the reins from Professor Charles H. Hapgood and have advanced his work to the level of a working model.

Many readers will identify with Professor Hapgood for the cautious and comprehensive manner in which he drafted his landmark books, *Earth's Shifting Crust* (1958), *Maps of the Ancient Sea Kings: Evidence of Advanced Civilization in the Ice Age* (1966) and *The Path of the Pole* (1970). Professor Hapgood is perhaps better known to the geophysical community for having laid out the hard evidence, as indeed many modern researchers are now coming to realise, that the science we see at the dawn of recorded history was not science at its dawning, but represents the remnants of the science of some great and as-yet-untraced civilisation.



Figure 1
The year is 1999, and East Antarctica is covered with over three miles of ice whose mass centre is offset a dangerous 400 miles east of the geographic pole. It is poised to shift, and chaos is awaiting the signal that the RB-Effect has broken the last of the crustal ties.

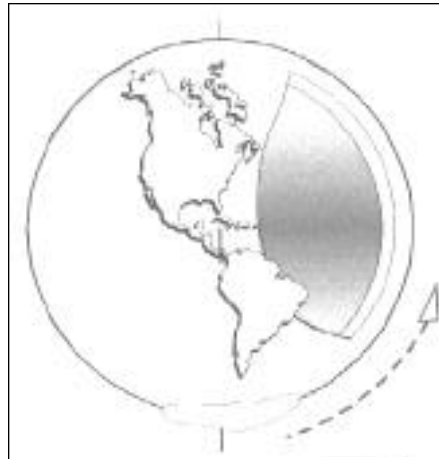


Figure 2
With the failure of the last crustal tie, the crust will slip across the inner mantle, carrying the frigid ice of the polar regions into the lower latitudes, and the following waters will swallow the land and all that inhabits it.



Figure 3
When the air clears and the waters have settled, the dawn will awaken to find a new world!

In my own book on this subject, *5/5/2000, Ice: The Ultimate Disaster*, I sought to answer the many questions that were before me by inviting other professionals to share their thoughts through interviews that I replicate for the reader. The beautiful thing about interviews is that they solicit spontaneous responses that often express a deeper meaning than if the words had been prepared in advance for publication. Some of the interviews were so thoroughly thought-provoking that I felt exhilarated by the experience, and would sit quietly for long periods afterwards, just wondering: From where did the marvels of this Earth, of this incredible world, originate?

Reflecting on this, one questions: How accurate are we in our belief that one continent, Pangaea, broke up and dispersed its part? And how accurate are we in our belief, though there is no modern analogue, that 17,000 years ago, glacial ice began to form in the temperate climates of the mid-latitudes as an onset to the ice ages? And how accurate are we in our belief that a 5,000-mile front of ice could retreat thousands of miles northward with no other Earth changes being apparent? There is no modern analogue for events of this magnitude! Do mountains form and rivers run, again, for reasons that have no modern analogue?

How is it that every natural phenomenon that we are witness to today has no analogue known to science? Nothing seems to be caused by anything that we are the least bit familiar with! Why is this the case? Why, when we're confronted with the overwhelming geological evidence that this insidious calamity has destroyed our ancestral civilisations on more than one occasion, haven't we learned the cause? Have we become so sophisticated, so arrogant in our thinking, that we feel immune? Or have we, mankind, not

wanting to face the horrifying truth of surging waters, chosen instead, like the Lotus-Eaters of Greek mythology who ate of the fruit of the lotus, to forget our past and live now in blissful indolence? Whichever the case, whether it's arrogance or indolence, the cause has eluded identification and has solicited silence. But silence, as the universal refuge, has become insufficient because the question of what could cause these hideous calamities thunders forth, demanding an answer. In the paragraphs ahead, we will seek an answer to this geological mystery. We will seek the cause.

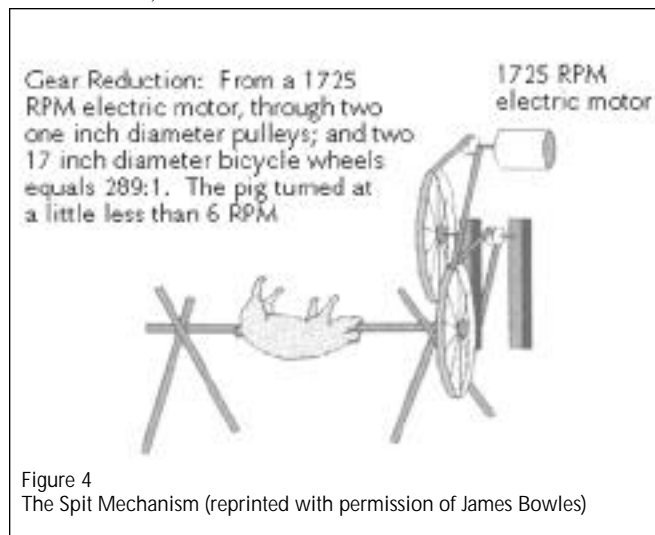


Figure 4
The Spit Mechanism (reprinted with permission of James Bowles)

Each year through the mail I receive many books by new authors wanting me to review their work or give a cover endorsement. These arrive usually unsolicited, because *5/5/2000* has had the effect of typecasting me as one who has openly sought answers and as one who is open to this type of inquiry. And genuinely I am, so I read them all, seeking the cause of the shift. In many respects, as their vogue is catastrophic Earth changes, I find them much alike; yet, on another scale, each is as varied as the sea is from the land.

This maintained an element of curiosity with me until a suggested answer came, strangely enough, from one of these unsolicited books, *The Gods, Gemini, and the Great Pyramid* by James Bowles.¹ In addressing these very same wonders, he wrote (p. 89):

There have always been differing views about the origin of life and land. Some authors, following a course of evolution, have found evidence of slow movements of the continents and the gradual evolution of life forms. Others, differing from this course, formulated a role for catastrophic intervention

that usurped the tranquility of the planet in brief episodes of chaos. Different as these views are, we might conclude that they found their origins in worlds apart. But how could they? They all must have used the same data bank of geological and fossil evidences...after all, there is but one! Then how did they separate in view and come to opposite conclusions?

In answer, Bowles quotes R. J. Campbell:

If the intellect were thoroughly reliable there ought to be no room for differences. But unfortunately it is not, so two individuals, both intelligent and both conscientious, may form diametrically opposite judgements from exactly the same evidence.

If Campbell is right, and instinct assures me that he is, then perhaps the philosophic difference between the proponents of gradual evolution, a theory modernly coupled with Uniformitarianism, and those of the catastrophic Earth-changes camp, or Catastrophism, though seemingly worlds apart, may not be one so much of fact as perception. Initial acceptance of this as a rudimentary truth could bring us to a point of agreement, on one issue at least, that being that it should be outside of the realm of debate (as this author reminds us), there is but a single set of cultural, geologic and fossil evidences in existence for any of us to explore (or exploit)!

That accepted as a basic truth, we can reasonably take the next step and find a second point of agreement based on the original premise, this being that the philosophic difference between Uniformitarianism and Catastrophism is not one based on fact but is one of interpretation.

If we were to consider signing a pact of agreement on these two issues, perhaps we could consider a third point. For instance, isn't it true that the securable evidences, once limited by geographical barriers and the austere nature of the investigative tools, have changed dramatically since geological investigations turned serious in the 18th century, a time when Uniformitarianism was born? If we concede this point, wouldn't it then be incumbent upon us to take on the proverbial reptilian character of shedding old coats that are no longer useful? Shouldn't we begin to give serious consideration to closing the drawer on old scientific paradigms and move on in favour of new ones that better explain the evidence?

These 'facts' or 'perception queries' are not new to this article. They were originally submitted by the most noted of all authorities on this matter, the very same British biologist who gave up his own biological research to champion Darwin's theory of evolution: Professor Thomas Henry Huxley (1825–1879). So, in acknowledging the impeccable credentials of this most noted scientist, I humbly submit that few modern-day biologists or Earth science researchers would likely withhold agreement with the professor, who, in 1869, addressed the Geological Society with the proposition that catastrophe was part and parcel with uniformity. Huxley wrote:²

To my mind there appears to be no sort of theoretical antagonism between Catastrophism and Uniformitarianism; on the contrary, it is very conceivable that catastrophes may be a part and parcel of uniformity.

Let me illustrate my case by analogy. The working of a clock is a model of uniform action. Good timekeeping means uniformity of action. But the striking of a clock is essentially catastrophe.

The hammer might be made to blow up a barrel of gun powder or turn on a deluge of water, and by proper arrangement the clock, instead of marking the hours, might strike all sorts of irregular intervals, never twice alike in the intervals, force or numbers of its blows.

Nevertheless, all these irregular and apparently lawless catastrophes would be the result of an absolutely Uniformitarian action, and we might have two schools of clock theorists, one studying the hammer and the other the pendulum.

So, if uniformity and catastrophe, rather than being the antagonists that perception has separated into evolutionist and creationist camps, became the new paradigm of agreement instead, what specific action would it take to bring the metaphorical hammer and pendulum into synchronous motion so that the pendulum, in laying out the passage of geological time, is coordinated with the striking of the geological patterned hammer? A unification theory perhaps?

There have been various attempts at unification, but each has failed—largely, I suggest, because insufficient consideration has ever been given to the fact that Nature's laws are in control of the motions of the hammer and the pendulum. But scientists don't know what laws these may be, or where to look, or where to go, or what to do to find out, and so to this very day, these laws remain undefined.

The hammer and the pendulum parable that we have been discussing here, so that we keep it fresh in our minds, is about the Earth sciences. We are talking about the formation of continents, of mountains, of the re-establishment of stagnant rivers to their primeval heights. We are talking about earthquakes, volcanoes and the Earth's magnetic field. We are talking about catastrophic episodes that have churned the crust into a menagerie of the dead. We are noting the fact that nothing is original; every particle of the Earth's crust has been recycled. The evidence is so pervasive that its very presence is proof in itself of catastrophe.

There can be but scant debate on this issue, for the entire expanse of the crust's upper layers, top to bottom, side to side, is one huge graveyard. The remains, which number in the tens of millions, are interspersed in the tundras of the North, the caves and fissures of the mid-latitudes, and the sedimentary rock of the continental and ocean basins—fossilised and unfossilised, bone and tissue, human and animal. There are seashells buried on mountain-tops and trees standing upright on the ocean floor.

There have been crustal fissure openings of such dimension that the hot magmas flowed so freely as to cover thousands of square miles of Washington, Oregon, and Idaho in the United States with lava hundreds of feet thick, in a region called Columbia Plateau. The lava floods of India, known as the Deccan Traps, spilled an incredible 480,000 cubic miles of lava across the Earth. Another, twice the size of Alaska and over 25 miles thick, called the

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Ontong Java Plateau, lies on the ocean floor near the Solomon Islands,³ and similar fields are found in Siberia and elsewhere. Across it all, lies the undisguised evidence of glacial scouring.

I recently found an article, "The History of Physics",⁴ which is not the commonest of reading subjects, but on this occasion I immersed myself in its detail. It must be known that the subject bears far more than I could ever hope to remember, but one detail did stand out above everything else, and that was how few scientists, actually how few people, were responsible for what we know in the field of physics today.

There were names like Newton, Kepler, Euler, Faraday, Maxwell, Fermi and Einstein, but, strangely, there were not many others. For me, the names James Clerk Maxwell and Michael Faraday stood out like neon lights for two powerful reasons that are appropriate to mention here.

In the preface to his *Treatise on Electricity and Magnetism*,⁵ Maxwell (1831–1879) attacked the scientific community on two fronts. First, he was furious over the abuse afforded Faraday and his work because the attacks were based solely on the establishment's disdain for Faraday's research methods. Do you believe it? His research *methods!* They didn't suit the scientists. It's a wonder, because Faraday's discovery that electricity flowed from the forces of magnetism is the solitary principle governing the operation of every single electric motor, generator, solenoid or transformer ever built!

Maxwell, for those not familiar with his work, was a mathematical genius who, at the end of the last century, virtually defined the field of electricity and magnetism. But what were the names of those scientists who were so distraught over Faraday's methods?

The other point of Maxwell's attack can only be appreciated from his own words. Here he is utterly frustrated over the fact that good works are mixed with bad, both are written in unintelligible language and then put together in a drawer, never to be seen again! According to Maxwell:

There is a considerable mass of mathematical memoirs which are of great importance...but they lie cancelled in the bulky transactions of learned societies. They do not form a connected system, they are of very unequal merit, and they are, for the most part, beyond the comprehension of any but professed mathematicians.

Maxwell's statements are clearly rather contemptuous of the orthodox system, but the points that he makes are well taken. How can we progress, he asks, if we can cast aside genius because we object to, or perhaps don't understand, its methods, and how can we progress if what others have accomplished lies cancelled from the public eye?

We must face these facts and events square-on if the evolutionist and creationist camps are to form a new paradigm of agreement. It is time that we do this, for it is no longer satisfactory to deny the evidence of 40 million animals that lie buried from a single event that occurred less than 10,000 years ago that anyone with a shovel can unearth.

The evidence favouring catastrophe is just too powerful, too pervasive, and it demands that we abandon the 18th century paradigm and consider an alternative that fits the observable facts.

We are not left without choices in this matter, because there have been some wonderfully *intuitively correct theories* advanced by some of these new authors.

There is one theory in particular that should be mentioned here, because not only does it address the *causal forces* involved in the catastrophic processes, but the same theory, unmodified, is applied in answer to the common questions about the origin of earthquakes, volcanoes and the Earth's own magnetic field. The theory is based on a process that the author, James Bowles, in his book, *The Gods, Gemini, and the Great Pyramid*, calls the Rotational-Bending Effect or, simply, the RB-Effect.

The principles that the RB-Effect advances are new to science and will require some detailed discussion which I will develop later, but the concept lends itself well to illustration and casual narration. So, in Bowles' words:

The discovery of the RB-Effect started out as a simple pig roast. We chose to roast the pig on a spit over a bed of coals, but the mechanism is not easily described, so rather than trying I'll just illustrate it, except to say that the spit is better portrayed as a one-and-a-half-inch-diameter galvanized water pipe rather than a proper spit. This is important to the story, because halfway through the night, the pipe broke and the pig fell in the fire. Actually, it was pretty funny.

It was, however, on the second morning anniversary of this event that I was suddenly struck with the realization that the pig had solved one of the most enigmatic problems facing science today. When the pig fell into the fire, it wasn't just because the spit broke; rather, it fell into the fire because the spit broke from fatigue. What I'd realized was that my hapless spit, which was bending under the weight of the pig, had been constantly rotating, and the combination—the bending and the continual rotation—was doing a fatigue

number on the pipe. It was creating internal tension and compression stresses, and the rotation was continually walking these stresses around and around inside the pipe, and heating it and wearing it out in the process.

The same thing can be shown to happen to the crust of the Earth. In a simplified fashion, and liken it to the adventure with the pig, this is what takes place.

First! Think of the crust, because of the subsurface plastic layer, as having some independent freedom to move. It would be a little like loose cargo moving about on the deck of a ship. And think of the crust being caused to bend along the plane of the ecliptic by the gravitational pull of the Sun and the Moon while it is in a state of simultaneous rotation. It rotates under this loading condition at a thousand miles an hour at the equator, 24 hours a day, 365 days a year, on and on for all eternity.

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The rotation and simultaneous bending has the consequence of fatiguing the crust and eventually exhausting the plastic layer's resilience. The crust's ties to the inner Earth will eventually break and everything will be set to fail. It plain out-and-out fails from fatigue!

Throughout his book Bowles emphasises, while quoting the works of scientists and other professionals who have spoken on the same issue, that all of the Earth's processes are controlled by *forces*—not energy, not momentum, and not any deeply hidden principle of unknown character; just forces. By example, forces are what propel cars, bicycles and the water from the faucet; they provide lift for an aircraft, cause a baseball to curve, and a golf ball to go into the brush; they cause electric motors to turn and they raise mountains. We merely have to observe the physical consequence of their action to establish their identity.

I'll expand on this point below, but for the moment I want to establish for the reader my intent in the continuing pages of this article. So here are the issues, as concisely as I can state them:

- a) The Debate: Evolution vs Creation, Uniformitarianism vs Catastrophism
- b) Uniformitarianism: What does it mean?
- c) Catastrophism: What does it mean, and does its consequence affect us today?
- e) A Solution to the Dilemma: a Unified Theory
- e) The Unifying Theory: the RB-Effect

THE DEBATE: Evolution vs Creation, Uniformitarianism vs Catastrophism

If we were to examine the level of informational bureaucracy in the Earth sciences today, we'd be so confused that it'd take a month of blue moons to re-gather our thoughts. Let me give you some for-instances. There are more glossary terms than there are stars in the sky. There are more unsolved mysteries than you could find from every ancient culture in the world. There are more adversarial topics than there are synonyms for antonyms written in all the dictionaries that have ever been. And if we were to sum up what we know, that is to say, what we are really sure of, we'd be forced to admit that we know virtually nothing! Why is that?

It is because the debates that have hampered discovery have been around for so long that they have all acquired names: Catastrophism versus Uniformitarianism, Evolution vs Creation, the Big Bang vs Steady State, the Big Bang vs Creation, Plate Tectonics vs Catastrophism, Plate Tectonics vs Shifting Crust, or Plate Tectonics vs Shifting Axis. We don't know whether isostasy is a process or a condition, or whether the geomagnetic field is formed deep within the Earth's core or from processes that go on in the upper mantle. We don't know whether recent elevations of the Himalayas are the result of crustal collisions or due to some unknown, deep Earth process, and we're in constant debate over whether the Earth originated as the product of accretion or as a fiery, primordial ball. And we still think that human culture evolved in a lineal ascent from the primitive to the advanced, that Columbus discovered America, and that the Great Pyramid was constructed using slave labour.

So there we go! Nothing seems to be caused by anything that we are the least bit familiar with! Why, and I must ask this again, why is that? I've said that I read all the books that the new authors send me, and I've drawn some conclusions from the new ideas that have been proposed.

Here is where I stand. I'm on record in my own book, *5/5/2000, Ice: The Ultimate Disaster*, that I support the Catastrophism view, and I have given up on the theory of *pure* natural selection in the evolution of new species in favour of a form of natural selection which is 'signed' by catastrophic interludes that prompt episodes of spontaneous mutation.

I favour brief cataclysmic episodes and shifting crusts over plate tectonics, and isostasy as a process. I favour the answers concerning the origin of the geomagnetic field and the recent changes in elevation in the Himalayan mountains to be addressed as a product of upper mantle processes. I favour accretion over a fiery primordial ball, and I'll not even comment on Pyramid slave labour or the Columbus debates, preferring instead to label them as ludicrous.

What I've done here is taken my computer mouse and clicked on every option that I felt had any chance of survival in an open debate where substantial elements of real proof had to be submitted in advance as a condition for participation. As my last selection, I clicked on Creation over the Big Bang because of articles that appeared in two US periodicals, *US News & World Report*⁶ and *Newsweek*⁷ where it was said that many of today's scientists are having a difficult time with the Big Bang theory without some consideration being given to Divine intervention.

I think the advantage of the high ground, in terms of the unifying theory that we will be discussing below, goes to those who can demonstrate that they can put a position paper together that doesn't provide multiple answers to questions and doesn't put all the controlling principles that they're administering in conflict with one another.

How many debate camps would we have if these were the rules? I have to admit, though grudgingly because it was a great idea, that forming a position paper of this sort was not my idea. It came from Mac B. Strain, author of *The Earth's Shifting Axis*.

Strain fashioned his position paper on page seven as an open challenge to scientists. He challenges the concept of thermal energies powering tectonic movements, and he challenges the corollary theory of subduction. He challenges the validity of palaeomagnetism and the "notion" (his term) that the ice and coal ages, which he views as concurrent antipodal events, relate in any way to changes in solar heat, or that the Siberian mammoths died a slow death, and he suggests that the glacial fingerprints in India, Africa and South America are not those of drifting continents. Most remarkably in my opinion, he challenges the validity, and even the advisability of elevating what he calls "working theories" to the status of fact before they have earned the right—plate tectonics theory and its corollaries, he suggests, being a single but classic example. For my part, I have little problem with any of these.

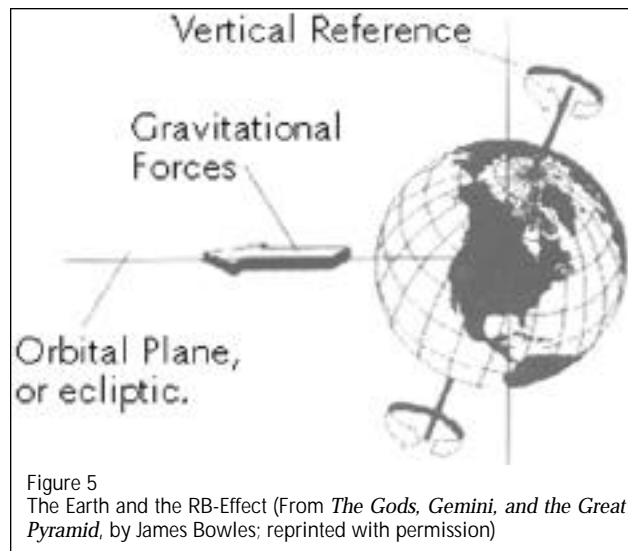


Figure 5
The Earth and the RB-Effect (From *The Gods, Gemini, and the Great Pyramid*, by James Bowles; reprinted with permission)

Bowles, on the other hand, doesn't give us a position paper *per se*; that is to say, he doesn't list them all in one place—rather, he scatters them throughout the 288 pages of text, illustrations and photographs, but leaves no question as to where he stands on the issues of debate. In the prologue, Bowles describes the process, that is, the cause, the actual mechanics, for the catastrophic episodes that we have been discussing, which he argues (quoting Hapgood) "is responsible for not only the ice ages, not only for the mountain ranges, but possibly for the very history of the continents and for all the principal features on the face of the Earth". He doesn't just say it, he lays out the physics of the process in words so plain and simple they could be taught in high school science classes. In consideration of the reader, however, the mathematics are held for the appendix, but his description is clear enough.

UNIFORMITARIANISM: What does it mean?

Uniformitarianism is generally credited to the Scottish geologist James Hutton who, in his dogged stand against catastrophe, wrote in his controversial *Theory of the Earth* (1788) the often-quoted statement: "As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end." He goes on to say:

Not only are no powers to be employed that are not natural to the globe, no action to be admitted of except those of which we know the principle, and no extraordinary events to be alleged in order to explain a common appearance, the powers of nature are not to be employed in order to destroy the very object of those powers... Chaos and confusion are not to be introduced into the order of nature, because certain things appear to our partial views as being in some disorder. Nor are we to proceed in feigning causes when those seem insufficient which occur in our experience.

There is an inherent attractiveness to this statement that needs our exploitation, because Hutton's words have been modernly misinterpreted to mean simply that "Chaos and confusion are not to be introduced into the order of nature, because certain things appear to our partial views as being in some disorder".

This suggests, of course, that catastrophe is outside of the natural order of Nature. However, as any reader can clearly see, this limited interpretation was not the intent of his statement. Let's look: "Chaos and confusion are not to be introduced into the order of nature, because certain things appear to our partial views as being in some disorder...; no action to be admitted of except those of which we know the principle..." It is a clear admission that if the extraordinary events, the chaos and the confusion to which Hutton refers could be defined in terms for which "we know the principle", they would fall within the scope of "the order of nature".

So, it is my ongoing intent to show that there are forces for which I can demonstrate the principles that influence the extraordinary events, the chaos and the confusion, so that we may finally end this debate.

CATASTROPHISM: What does it mean, and does its consequence affect us today?

There is nothing born in the knowledge of the catastrophic processes that the Earth experiences that will help mankind survive the deadly consequence of the next event. We can apply what understanding we have and attempt to secure safe haven. But we'd have to share what little safe ground there may be with three billion other people. We'd have to drop our daily chores at the first sound of chaos, but I don't know what chaos sounds like—a freight train perhaps? But I'd hate to be put into a panic every time I heard a freight train! So I think it's apparent that knowledge for knowledge's sake is not going to be very helpful unless there is a constructive way that we can apply that knowledge.

The obvious question that this solicits is this: What constructive good can come from acknowledging the forces of catastrophe? The answer, though hidden from us now, is as obvious as the question. Before I answer it, however, I want to outline for you what catastrophe meant to those ancient peoples who survived to rebuild their lost civilisation.

1. Families and cities, mining and manufacturing, retail, libraries, governing agencies, communication and infrastructures would all have been disrupted or totally destroyed; and, perhaps worse, man's trust in God, in Nature and his fellow man would have been shattered.

2. Disaster would have prevailed on the high seas and inland to the hills from waters disrupted from their normal courses. Earthquakes would have devastated all that the waters hadn't reached, and volcanic eruptions would have filled the atmosphere with dust and sound so overpowering as to be maddening. Man's origins, his genealogy, his heritage, his dreams would thus have been buried under one more layer of debris.

3. Elevations would have changed and new mountains been formed. Rivers once slow and clogged with silt would have gained new heights to become in power like the canyon-forging torrents of the primaeval Colorado.

4. There would have been mass extinctions of plant and animal species; and if history repeated itself, there would have been spontaneous mutations of both plant and animal species—where, as proof from events as recent as 10,000 years ago, mastodons became elephants, sabre-toothed tigers became Bengal tigers, giant sloths and beavers were reduced to rodents, and the woolly rhinoceroses changed colour and shed their hair.

The first dawn would have shed its light over a new motif of islands and deserts, forests and rivers; it would have seen the glaciers begin to re-form at the poles, and the RB-Effect beginning anew to tear at the crust to start the process all over again.

Perhaps now you are wondering what earthly good does knowing serve? Well, I said that the answers were as obvious as the questions, so let's ask questions, and I invite you to refer to the answers above as you contemplate these.

There is nothing born in the knowledge of the catastrophic processes that the Earth experiences that will help mankind survive the deadly consequence of the next event.

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1. Why are the remains of the ancient civilisations so scant?

2. Why does our image of civilisation go back only as far as a few centuries BC?

3. Why, when we have known erosion to take down mighty mountains, are our rivers still flowing strongly, our fresh water lakes still clear, and the waterfalls around the world still encased in their original escarpments?

4. Why, when we can find sabre-toothed cats, mammoths and mastodons etched on cave walls and lying in shallow graves, do we have tigers, lions and bears today? And here is a good question for you: why do we find dinosaurs in graves no deeper than those of the sabre-toothed cats, mammoths and mastodons?

Knowing the truths of yesterday answers our questions of today. It should no longer be a surprise to any of us if a breaking news story reported an oil find in Iceland, or a child's doll were removed from a well drilling-core in North Dakota, or a breed of dinosaur, previously reported as indigenous to the polar wastes of the Antarctic, were found to be a warm-blooded, swamp-feed-

ing creature of gentle disposition! Because now we know that it is the natural "order of Nature".

To be continued next issue...

Endnotes

1. Bowles, James, *The Gods, Gemini, and the Great Pyramid*, Gemini Publishing (PO Box 648, Grass Lake, Michigan 49240-0648), USA, 1998. James Bowles is a retired civil engineer who worked for NASA sub-contractors on the *Apollo* Moon program. He finished his 20-year engineering career in industrial manufacturing, while teaching college-level physics and mathematics evenings.
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